Famous Players defers common dividend, but will earn bond interest is report

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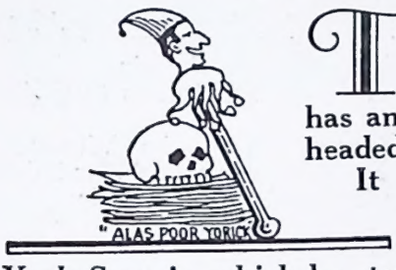
IVAR KREUGER ON SCREEN



THE Ontario Intelligencer published in Belleville, Ont., has an interesting editorial headed 'Finance in Talkies'. It refers to John S. Cohen, Jr.'s, comments in the New York Sun, in which he states that stock operators, banks and Ivar Kreuger are soon to appear on the screen.

It will not be the first time that "tickers" have flickered across the screen for the enlightenment of the public and its entertainment.

"The Wolf of Wall St.", with George Bancroft, is one of the excellent examples wherein it was revealed how "the bulls" made a pet of "the lambs", and what "the bulls" missed fell to the share of "the bears", not overlooking the "inner circle" which cut each other's throats with the indifference of priests who once prepared "bulls" for the altar.

The Commission which investigated the affairs of Kreuger, following his death, pronounced him as a "Master Crook"; and in their verdict endeavored to tear down all the Romance of Finance, the Wizardry of Success, which had become associated with the name of Ivar Kreuger. Nevertheless Kreuger will remain a romantic character, just as "Robin Hood", "Dick Turpin", highwaymen of a different school remain romantic figures.

Cohen states, "Financiers, in the last twenty years, have been the kings of the earth, the rulers of the land, seas, sky, and air. They have had more prominence than ever before. The public had begun to stand in awe of them, to regard them as Magical Wizards, who brought order, intelligence, prosperity and kindred blessings.

"Now the public begins to doubt a bit — but still they are just as contemporary, just as newsy and fresh as thematic material."

Mr. Cohen continues his argument, for dramatic interest in pictures of Finance, by stressing that "during the inflation twenty million people were speculating in the market", and the interest of these people, plus the "network" which created, manipulated this interest for the benefit of finance, must have created a public interest collectible at the box-office.

We agree with Mr. Cohen, that "pictures of finance" have a sufficiently dramatic element to interest the public, but since "Finance and Industry" are still the bankers of the Industry of Motion Pictures, it is not likely that we will have a deluge of Financial revelations by way of the screen, even if Ivar Kreuger becomes box-office. No one has yet invested in an enterprise, which revealed the investor as a "hold-up artist", even if operating "within the law".

UNIVERSAL'S "BACK STREET"

TORONTO is very much interested in "Back Street", which is playing The Uptown, Toronto, this week.

Fanny Hurst's "Back Street" is familiar to those who are most eulogistic in their praise of the screen production.

Irene Dunne as "Ray Schmidt" has created a character upon the screen which will live along with Marie Dressler's impersonation in "Anna Christie", Lional Barrymore's characterization in the "Free Soul", etc., etc., for to meet "Ray Schmidt" is to love her!

It is a great woman's picture with Irene Dunne and John Boles in the leads.

RAY PRESENTS

RAY LEWIS

THERE is a "hot tip" going around Toronto, to buy "Warner Bros." Several years ago the same "whispered boost" was in order, Warners then could be bought for about $6.00 a share. This was previous to the boom, which preceded the Great Boom, taking Warner stock with it and making a number of Torontonians richer at that time. There was the same scepticism about "buying" as there is today, because times were not as good, as they apparently appeared to be.

Some one who is said to be wise, and worthy of quotation, sorry I do not remember his name, said that the millionaires of 1935, are those who are buying stock today!

It is great propaganda, and no doubt there is plenty of truth in it, the only obstacle in the way of becoming the 1935 millionaire is, "what will we use for money?", the "we", representing the public!

Therefore, it looks as if the 1935 millionaires will be the 1932 millionaires, since money has a habit of "sticking to money".

We do know, however, that Harry Warner and the Warner family of Brothers, have a determination, "a stiff-necked inheritance", which opposes every obstacle to eliminate their personalities from Motion Pictures and that "fighting against heavy odds" is not a new development for Harry Warner!

With the product line-up which this company has, it looks as if the "tip around Toronto" will make money for the box-office and for those who have the odd dollar to take a chance!

"GRAND HOTEL" opens at Loew's, Toronto, and this Queen City of ours is taking notice of the popular prices. Any picture which has an assembly of stars, such as Garbo, Lionel Barrymore, John Barrymore, Joan Crawford, Wallace Beery, Jean Hersholt, and Lewis Stone, is worth the price of admission several times.

We previously stated that "Grand Hotel" is a grand picture and we still feel that it is grand enough to capture the Academy award.

Another picture which is creating talk is "Once in a Lifetime". Those, who have been fortunate enough to see it at the private screenings are "loud in its praise". I will tell you more about it next week. Meanwhile, Toronto is not the only city which is "spreading the gospel" of "Once in a Lifetime".

If the picture is anything like the play, I am prepared for an evening's enjoyment of chuckles, such as I have not indulged in, since the evening on which I witnessed the performance of "Once in a Lifetime" on Broadway. Incidentally a great number of people in New York must have been inspired in the same degree for chuckles, for the play had a run of two years.

MADAME DREYFUS-BARNEY, a recent visitor to our country, and a woman of distinction, has been making "the cinema" the subject of several of her addresses throughout Canada.

Recently she addressed members of the Women's Canadian Club, the University Women's Club, and the Professional and Business Women's Club of Winnipeg, at a joint meeting.

Madame Dreyfus-Barney traced the development of the Cinema, which she termed the "seventh art" and recorded it as the "unfailing witness of events and customs", etc. She also stated, "Those who control the industry did little to interpret high ideas, aiming rather at popularity and easy success through reflecting on the screen what they thought to be the common taste, in sensational episodes of passion, crime and clownish humor."

Continuing her address to this varied assemblage of women, the speaker said, "catering to the lower nature of man has made the cinema craze a public danger, for children and undeveloped minds receive a strong and lasting impression from the screen. The principal concern of the producers has been to build a prosperous business, but public opinion is becoming alarmed and demanding a selection of films". These are but excerpts from Madame Laura Dreyfus-Barney's address, forwarded us by our Winnipeg correspondent.

THIS address brings to mind that our Industry has never thought it sufficiently important to utilize some women speakers of its own, sufficiently familiar with this Industry to deliver addresses at various women's organizations in connection with motion pictures.

The stage frequently had its women-players address various organizations, proving an attraction by way of oratory and of interest to the listeners, and an instrument of excellent propaganda and publicity for the stage.

I presume that the Hay's organization, or the Academy of Arts and Sciences would be the Bureaus, who would direct such publicity, but whether this is due to oversight, or sex jealousy, the males of our Industry being entirely satisfied to handle this work themselves, or whether it is due to a lack of interest because this work is not deemed important, the fact remains that the only women who have told our public what "it is all about", are women outside of the Industry, who know as much about Motion Pictures as our officials choose to tell them and

(Continued on page 9)

Calgary Albertan states editorially: "Any unnatural barrier raised against foreign films entering Canada would be an unmitigated evil"

LEO M. DEVANEY

Leo M. Devaney, recently appointed General Manager of RKO Distributing Corporation of Canada, has perhaps had as varied experience in show business generally and the motion picture business in particular as any of the executives in Canada today.

Originally a newspaper man, he spent several years on American and Canadian dailies, in addition to his connection with various roadshows in the capacity of exploitation, advertising and general publicity.

In Canada, Mr. Devaney was for a number of years associated with the Shea interests of Buffalo and Toronto, later being appointed Manager of the Fox Film Exchange, a position which he occupied for over six years.

After a sojourn in South America, he returned to Canada to become Sales Manager for the Canadian Universal Film Exchange, under Clair Hague, which position he held until transferred to Cleveland. During the six years which Mr. Devaney was in the United States with Universal, he was, respectively, Branch Manager, District Manager, Division Manager and latterly Eastern Sales Division Manager with headquarters in New York.

In 1929, he joined the Theatre Department of RKO under Joseph Plunkett, and eventually returned to Canada, supervising the RKO interests in theatres which extended from Vancouver to St. John, N.B. Recently he was transferred from the Theatre Department to the distribution field and was later made General Manager of the company's interests in Canada.

R. B. Bennett, Chairman of the Imperial Economic Conference, is here seen writing a note to the Director of the Technical Staff, which held the microphones, visible on the table, open until the King's message was read.

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on account of

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Young America wants *young blood* in its Westerns!

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SID ROGELL
Associate Producer
Distributed by
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"WARNER

Observations — The Spotlight — By The Editor

SINCE crops in Western Canada mean so much to that country, and to Eastern Canada also; and since our theatres in the west depend largely on an agricultural attendance, the following report from our Winnipeg correspondent is especially of interest to the producer-distirbutors of Motion Pictures:

"Operating profits of $265,137 for the year ending July 31, 1932, are shown in the annual statement of the Western Grain Company issued by C. G. Spencer, president. Due to the light crop in Western Canada last year earnings are below those of last year when operating profits of $340,241 were reported. The 1932 statement shows that the working capital position has been well maintained. After deducting bond interest and United States exchange premium thereon of $201,236, the balance of the profits for the year, namely $63,900, was applied to depreciation of country and terminal properties, leaving the amount at the credit of surplus account at $263,372, the same figure as last year.

The statement shows that the company retired $140,-500 in bonds during the year under sinking fund provisions. Bank loans secured appear at $1,360,000, against $679,000 last year. Accounts payable have been sharply reduced from $357,173 last year to $187,908, the amount shown in this year's annual report. Inventories appear at $1,879,119, against $1,212,695 last year.

In submitting the annual report C. G. Spencer stated that as in the previous year the balance sheet had been prepared to include the business of the company's wholly owned subsidiary, the Mutual Grain Company.

In discussing crops prospects, Mr. Spencer said: "Owing to the extremely light crop last season and the total failure at a large number of the company's points in southern Saskatchewan, the volume of business handled was extremely small, so that results accomplished during the year were largely due to extraordinarily economies made in operating costs, and your directors wish to record their appreciation of the efficient service and loyal co-operation of all agents, employees and officers in making these results possible. In general, a good crop is now being harvested in all three provinces, but unfortunately there is a partial failure in a large part of the south-central area of Saskatchewan, where a number of the company's elevators are located. However, the company is looking forward to a much improved handling compared with that of last season."

* * * *

HAROLD BISHOP has returned to Winnipeg from Calgary, Alta., to take charge at the RKO Capitol Theatre, and Mike Goodman, who has been in charge there for some time, takes over as manager of the RKO Winnipeg Theatre, which re-opened Sept. 19 with a double feature bill.

* * * *

OPENING of the Dominion Theatre, a moving picture house, in Winnipeg, with a program of high class talkies, and miniature stage productions, took place recently. The theatre has been re-decorated, and a complete modern talkie equipment is being installed.

A company incorporated under the name of "Dominion Theatre Limited" by R. H. Brindle, A. Munro, and J. A. Hebert has taken over the theatre on a long lease.

MADAME LAURA DREYFUS-BARNEY of London and Geneva, in addressing a joint meeting of Women's organizations in Winnipeg, Sept. 20th, prefaced her opening remarks with "Considering the important place in life of the present day of the moving picture it is advisable to become familiar with the possibilities and problems it offers". Madame Dreyfus-Barney referred to the Screen as "the subtle and unwavering instrument of science", the magic wand of the dramatist, and of the poet", the "untiring educator".

"Invented less than 40 years ago," she said, "its originator no doubt had a vision of what it might be for humanity, but almost at its birth commercialism seized it for profit, and entertainment for the poorer class of public", etc.

The speaker felt that the understanding by the League of Nations of the increasingly important effect of the Cinema in the formation of public conscience and its effect on young people, is encouraging, and cited as examples the committees of the League which have studied the question for the last few years.

The majority of countries have censorship, sometimes by limited-minded censors, it must be admitted, she said, and most countries find a double censorship successful, first political and as to gross vulgarity, secondly as to films good and wise for children, whose ideas are easily warped.

With proper control, the moving picture can be used constructively to foster international good-will and understanding.

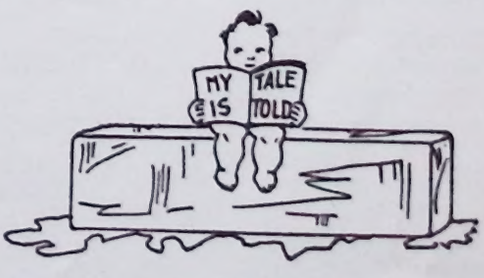
Ray Presents

(*Continued from Page 4*)

whose inspiration in our favour, is not a love of show business, but involved in the financial rewards for such service!

Mr. Aylesworth of R. K. O., Mr. Nicholas Schenck of Loew's, I particularly present the thought herein for your separate consideration, because if I am any kind of a judge of human nature, or mental complexes, you two gentlemen, will deal with the idea, regardless of how many males may be inclined to oppose it because they love to see their own names in the press and to hear their own voices.

With governments controlling Radio through Commissions, and Radio and Moving Pictures linked through "The voice of action", it is much better to be "too soon" in directing public opinion in regard to Motion Pictures, than "too late".



Classic Theatre, Owen Sound, has assessment reduced $5,000—Successful in appeal

Show Business

Tracy Featured in "Over the Counter"

Emerson Tracy will portray one of the male leads in "Over the Counter", the new short subject to be made in natural color by the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer studios.

Big Fire Scene Staged at R K O

Culver City's efficient fire department merely turned over in bed last night when a reddened sky, swirling columns of smoke and high-leaping flames gave spectacular, thrilling notice of one of the greatest fires in the city's history. Hundreds of others, assembled to watch the conflagration, did nothing to stop it. In fact paid arsonists helped it along.

The fire was confined to the RKO Pathe Studio, and consumed the concessions, stands and shows of a carnival as the cameras turned. The great blaze will provide one of the thrill moments in "Phantom Fame", a Radio picture with Lee Tracy, Lupe Velez and Eugene Pallette.

"Women in Prison" Next Stanwyck Film

Barbara Stanwyck's next starring picture for Warner Bros. will be "Women in Prison," with Preston Foster as leading man. Aline MacMahon, now in New York, will also be prominent in the cast. "Women in Prison" will be based on an unproduced play by Carlton Miles and Dorothy MacKaye.

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Sherwood Begins Work on "Education of a Princess"

Robert E. Sherwood has begun work on "The Education of a Princess", which he is adapting to the screen for Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer. Sherwood is the author of "The Road to Rome", "Waterloo Bridge" and "Reunion in Vienna", the last named of which will be made into a photoplay by M-G-M with John and Lionel Barrymore and Diana Wynward in the leading roles.

Buchanan in U. A. Features

Jack Buchanan, who will arrive in New York soon to appear in a new Broadway musical, probably will journey to Hollywood for a short conference with Joseph M. Schenck, president of United Artists.

The conference will have to do with details of production on pictures which Buchanan will make for United Artists release. "Magic Night", first of the Buchanan films, is already in the hands of U. A., and the second one, "Yes, Mr. Brown", is now being edited. The third, "That's A Good Girl", will be started in the Spring.

The last-named picture will be the first Buchanan film which United Artists will release throughout the world, including the British Empire,

Hopton's Contract Re-written by Universal

So well did Russell Hopton acquit himself in "Once in a Lifetime" that Carl Laemmle, Jr., has re-written his contract and made him a co-director. His first assignment has not been given him yet.

Cast Chosen for "Fu Manchu" Feature

Sax Rohmer, author of "The Mask of Fu Manchu," which Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer is filming at its Culver City studios, arrived in New York from Europe last Wednesday. Charles Brabin is directing the cinema version of "The Mask of Fu Manchu" with a cast including Boris Karloff, Jean Hersholt, Myrna Loy and Charles Starrett.

Universal's "The All American" Acclaimed

The football season is really here. Football is in the air, and due cognizance has been taken of the tremendously widespread interest in this sport by Carl Laemmle, Jr. Universal's football picture this year is entitled "The All American" and has just been seen by the assembled sports writers who are in New York for the sessions in connection with the baseball World Series. They unanimously declared it to be the best picture with a background of sports ever made.

Bebe Daniels and Ginger Rogers in "Forty-Second Street"

Bebe Daniels will play the part previously assigned to Kay Francis in Warner Bros. forthcoming production of "Forty-Second Street", from the novel by Bradford Ropas; and Ginger Rogers will appear in the part intended for Joan Blondell. "Forty-Second Street" will go into production late this month with an all-star cast under the direction of Mervyn LeRoy. It will be partly musical.

Toronto Theatres

LOEW'S—Manager Jules Bernstein — A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer feature, "Divorce in the Family", with Jackie Cooper, Conrad Nagel and Lewis Stone.

UP'TOWN—Manager Tom Daley — "Back Street", a Universal film with Irene Dunne and John Boles.

IMPERIAL—Manager H. V. Knevels — "70,000 Witnesses", a Paramount picture with Phillips Holmes and Dorothy Jordan.

TIVOLI—Manager M. J. Doyle — "Tiger Shark", a First National release featuring Edward G. Robinson and Richard Arlen.

SHEA'S — Manager Jerry Shea — "The Man They Couldn't Arrest", a Gainsborough feature.

Paramount-Publix Corp. estimates net operating loss for quarter ending July 2nd, at $5,900,000